COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: December 14, 2015
AGENDA NUMBER: 9
ITEM: Approval of 2016 Property Tax Levies

FISCAL IMPACT: Budgeted
POLICY IMPACT: Policy

REQUEST
Adopt resolutions approving 2016 property tax levy amounts.

BACKGROUND
At the September 9, 2015 meeting the Board adopted the 2016 budget that included a levy of $3,041,118. The Board met again December 9 to review the levy and discuss potential options. Three options appear to remain as potentially viable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Amt</th>
<th>Chg from 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Leave Levy the Same</td>
<td>$3,041,119</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Decrease Proposed Levy Increase by Half</td>
<td>$2,570,627</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.44% Increase over 2015 Levy</td>
<td>$2,140,936</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attached are resolutions corresponding to the above options.

ISSUES/CONCERNS
The Proposed Building: While all three County Commissioners present at the workshop appeared supportive of a new building, Two of the County Commissioners vocalized their support, but questioned, or appeared uncomfortable, with the initial estimated cost of $3–4 million.

Their suggestion/desire was for the District to conduct a little more analysis of the financial basis, need and justification for the building. The three Commissioners present appeared supportive of an investment or “seed money” to work through, clarify and establish the front end need or case as well as a firmer forecast on the cost of the building.

RECOMMENDATION
1. Discuss levy options and adopt appropriate resolution.
2. Direct staff to conduct:
   a. a ‘lease versus buy’ analysis comparing the existing office, a current/probable rent rate office, to the proposed office and a ‘right sized office in part to establish an upper estimate of cost and project budget.
RESOLUTION
ADOPTING AND CERTIFYING METROPOLITAN SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT TAX LEVY

WHEREAS, The Coon Creek Watershed District is established and authorized under Minnesota Statutes 103D; and

WHEREAS, The Coon Creek Watershed District has an approved management plan under Minnesota Statutes 103B.231 and is the local water management organization; and

WHEREAS, The Coon Creek Watershed District has completed the budget hearings required under Minnesota Statutes 103D.911, subdivision 1; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 103B.241 authorizes a watershed district established under Minnesota Statutes 103D to levy a tax sufficient to pay the increased costs to the District of implementing section 103B.231 costs of preparing a plan or for projects in the plan.

FOR OPTION 1
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a tax sufficient to produce $3,041,119 (Three million Forty-one Thousand one hundred nineteen and xx/100 dollars) be levied upon all taxable property in the Coon Creek Watershed District, situated in the County of Anoka, Minnesota, for the year 2016 for the purpose of paying the current and increased costs of the District to implement Minnesota Statutes 103B costs of preparing a plan and for projects in the plan.

FOR OPTION 2
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a tax sufficient to produce $2,089,941 (Two million Eighty-nine Thousand nine hundred forty-one and xx/100 dollars) be levied upon all taxable property in the Coon Creek Watershed District, situated in the County of Anoka, Minnesota, for the year 2016 for the purpose of paying the current and increased costs of the District to implement Minnesota Statutes 103B costs of preparing a plan and for projects in the plan.

FOR OPTION 3
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a tax sufficient to produce $2,089,941 (Two million Eighty-nine Thousand nine hundred forty-one and xx/100 dollars) be levied upon all taxable property in the Coon Creek Watershed District, situated in the County of Anoka, Minnesota, for the year 2016 for the purpose of paying the current and increased costs of the District to implement Minnesota Statutes 103B costs of preparing a plan and for projects in the plan.